

Patent
Docket No.: 54982USA1A.002

#3



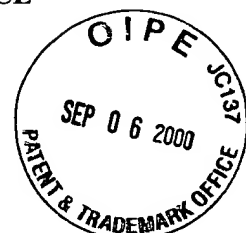
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

SEP 12 2000

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Group Art Unit: 1743

Examiner:



In re Application of:

Rodney K. Hehenberger, Phillip A.
Bolea, and Bernard A. Gonzalez

Serial No.: 09/369,410

Filed: August 5, 1999

For: Chemical Indicator Reader

**Petition to Secure Filing Date as of Mailing Date Via Express Mail Under 37
CFR 1.10(c) or (d)**

Or In the Alternative

**A Petition Under 37 CFR 1.182 or 37 CFR 1.183 For Correction of Filing Date
and Issuance of a Corrected Filing Receipt**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

The filing receipt for this case indicates that this application was granted a filing date of August 3, 1999. This is an error. The filing date for this case is actually August 5, 1999.

The "Application Papers" for this application were deposited in the U.S. mail as Express Mail and sent to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on **August 5, 1999** via an envelope labeled "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" mailing label No. EM164710442US. The U.S. Post Office handwritten entry for the "date in" on the "Express Mail" mailing label is difficult to read. The undersigned attorney believes that the handwritten date could be read as August 5, 1999, but the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office apparently read this handwritten date as August 3, 1999. Because the handwriting is not clear, the "date in" was either incorrectly entered, or there is a discrepancy between the filing date according this application and the "date in".

Certificate of Mailing

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.8 I certify that this correspondence is being deposited on the date indicated below with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

Date:

August 28, 2000

Signature

[Handwritten Signature]

09/11/2000 CNGUYEN 00000066 133723 09369410

01 FC:122 130.00 CH

In another part of the Express Mail mailing label, the document includes different handwriting that states: "Mailed: 8/5/99". A copy of the Express Mail label is enclosed for convenience.

In addition to the specification, claims and drawings, the Application Papers included:

1. A declaration signed by all three of the named inventors on August 5, 1999.
2. An assignment signed by all three of the named inventors on August 5, 1999 and notarized by a notary public on the same date.
3. An assignment recordation cover sheet signed by the undersigned attorney on August 5, 1999.
4. A Post Card dated August 5, 1999 with Express Mail mailing label no. EM164710442US identified thereon. The postcard identifies the Application Papers.
5. A Transmittal of Application Cover Letter dated August 5, 1999 with Express Mail mailing label no. EM164710442US identified at least twice thereon. This document also identifies the Application Papers.

Clearly, these papers could not have been executed on August 5, 1999 if this case had actually been mailed two days earlier on August 3, 1999. This is clearly an error on the part of the U.S. Post Office. The record should not be obfuscated due to bad handwriting.

Submitted herewith, please find a copy of the Application Transmittal Letter showing the executed Express Mail certificate and the mailing label number EM164710442US along with a Certificate of Express Mailing (37 C.F.R. 1.10(c)) further showing that this case was actually mailed on August 5, 1999. The Application Transmittal Letter was signed by the undersigned attorney, who is registered to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (Reg. No. 34,109). The Certificate of Express Mailing was signed by Cheryl Schmitz. Ms. Schmitz worked as my secretary at that time.

Also enclosed is a copy of the declaration, assignment and assignment recordation cover sheet that accompanied the Application Transmittal Letter. These all show the signatures of the different individuals on August 5, 1999. Finally, please

also find enclosed a copy of the postcard for this case that is dated August 5, 1999 and that includes mailing label number EM164710442US thereon. The postcard identifies the Application Papers as identified above.

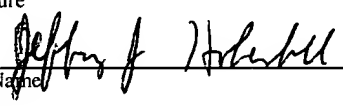
As shown in the attached copy of Applicant's filing receipt, this application was erroneously assigned a filing date of August 3, 1999. Under either of the "Express Mail" filing procedures proscribed in 37 C.F.R. Section 1.10 (c) or (d), Applicants respectfully submit that this application is clearly entitled to a filing date of August 5, 1999. In the alternative, if for any reason the patent office does not believe that this petition is sufficient under 37 CFR Section 1.10, applicants petition for a filing date of August 5, 1999 and a corrected filing receipt reflecting the change pursuant to either 37 CFR 1.182 or 37 CFR 1.183. The evidence presented in this petition shows that it would be manifestly erroneous to maintain the filing date of August 3, 1999 for this case. Nothing further should be required from the applicants.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request correction of the filing date of this application to August 5, 1999, and request that a corrected filing receipt be issued which reflects the corrected filing date.

It is believed that this resulted from a Post Office error (bad handwriting) and that no fee should be due for the correction of the filing date and the issuance of a corrected filing receipt. If the Patent and Trademark Office disagrees, Applicants authorize payment of the necessary fee of \$130.00 for a petition under 37 CFR 1.182 or 37 CFR 1.183 or for a filing date as required under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(h) or (i) from deposit account No. 13-3723.

Respectfully submitted,

Registration Number	Telephone Number
34,109	651-733-1555
Date	
August 25, 2000	

Signature

Print Name
Jeffrey J. Hohenshell

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
P.O. Box 33427
St. Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
PO Box 33427
St. Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427
651/733 1500

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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

PATENT

Docket No.

54982US1A002



Transmittal of Patent Application - Rule 1.53(b)

Box: Patent Application
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Inventor(s): Rodney K. Hehenberger; Phillip A. Bolea and Bernard A. Gonzalez
Title: CHEMICAL INDICATOR READER

1. ☒ Enclosed is the above-mentioned new patent application. It includes 25 sheet(s) of drawings.
2. ☒ Enclosed is an executed declaration or oath.
3. ☒ Enclosed are an application assignment to 3M Innovative Properties Company and a completed Assignment Recordation Cover Sheet.
4. ☐ Enclosed is a Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) _____. (if foreign priority is claimed).
5. ☐ Enclosed is _____.
6. ☒ The fee for filing the application is computed as follows:

Claims As Filed				
(1) For	(2) Number Filed	(3) Number Extra	(4) Rate	(5) Basic Fee \$760.
Total Claims	18 -20 =	0	x \$18.	\$0
Independent Claims	1 -3 =	0	x \$78.	\$0
Additional fee for filing one or more multiple dependent claims			\$260.	\$
Total amount due →				\$760

7. ☒ Please charge to Deposit Account 13-3723 any fees under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required to file and during the entire pendency of this application. This authorization includes the fee for any extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) that may be necessary. To the extent any such extension should become necessary it is hereby requested. A copy of this transmittal letter for fee processing is enclosed.
8. ☒ Enclosed is a return receipt postcard

Respectfully submitted

Registration Number	Telephone Number
34,109	(651) 733-1555
Date	
August 5, 1999	

Signature
<i>Jeffrey J. Hohenshell</i>
Print Name
Jeffrey J. Hohenshell

Certificate of Express Mailing	
Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.10 I certify that this application is being deposited on the date indicated below with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.	
Express Mail Mailing Label No.	Signature of Person Mailing Application
EM164710442US	<i>Cheryl L. Schmitz</i>
Date of Deposit	Printed Name of Person Mailing Application
August 5, 1999	Cheryl L. Schmitz

c:\3mipco\forms and samples\transmittal letter - original patent app 1-53(b).doc Rev. 4/18/99

EM164710442US

JCH

FILING RECEIPT



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office
ASSISTANT SECRETARY AND COMMISSIONER
OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	GRP ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	DRWGS	TOT CL	IND CL
09/369,410	08/03/99	1743	\$760.00	54982US1A002	25	18	1

JEFFREY J HOHENSHELL
OFFICE OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY COUNSEL
3M INNOVATIVE PROPERTIES COMPANY
P O BOX 33427
ST PAUL MN 55133-3427

OFFICE OF INTELLECTUAL
PROPERTY COUNSEL
3M INNOVATIVE PROPERTIES COMPANY

AUG 31 1999

REFERRED TO

JJH

Receipt is acknowledged of this nonprovisional Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Customer Service Center. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts of Application" ("Missing Parts Notice") in this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the "Missing Parts Notice." When the PTO processes the reply to the "Missing Parts Notice," the PTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

Applicant(s) RODNEY K. HEHENBERGER, APPLE VALLEY, MN; PHILLIP A.
BOLEA, WHITE BEAR LAKE, MN; BERNARD A. GONZALEZ, ST. PAUL,
MN.

IF REQUIRED, FOREIGN FILING LICENSE GRANTED 08/26/99

TITLE

CHEMICAL INDICATOR READER

PRELIMINARY CLASS: 422

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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

DATA ENTRY BY: THOMAS, SHEILA

TEAM: 06 DATE: 08/26/99

(See reverse for new important information)

DECLARATION, POWER OF ATTORNEY, AND PETITION

I, a below named inventor, depose and say that: (1) my residence, citizenship, and mailing address are indicated below; (2) I have reviewed and understand the contents of attached specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to herein, (3) I believe that the other below named inventors and I are the original, first, and joint inventors or discoverers of the invention or discovery in

CHEMICAL INDICATOR READER

described and claimed therein and for which a patent is sought; and (4) I hereby acknowledge my duty to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to the patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.*

I hereby appoint Gregory D. Allen (Reg. No. 35,048), Scott A. Bardell (Reg. No. 39,594), Carolyn A. Bates (Reg. No. 27,853), Stephen W. Bauer (Reg. No. 32,192), Dale A. Bjorkman (Reg. No. 33,084), Jennie G. Boeder (Reg. No. 28,952), William J. Bond (Reg. No. 32,400), Stephen W. Buckingham (Reg. No. 30,035), Paul W. Busse (Reg. No. 32,403), Gerald F. Chernivec (Reg. No. 26,537), James D. Christoff (Reg. No. 31,492), David R. Cleveland (Reg. No. 29,524), Philip Y. Dahl (Reg. No. 36,115), Charles L. Dennis II (Reg. No. 30,555), Janice L. Dowdall (Reg. No. 31,201), Lisa M. Fagan (Reg. No. 40,601), Darla P. Fonseca (Reg. No. 31,783), John A. Fortkort (Reg. No. 38,454), Matthew J. Goggin (Reg. No. 44,125), Melanie G. Gover (Reg. No. 41,793), Gary L. Griswold (Reg. No. 25,396), Doreen S. L. Gwin (Reg. No. 35,580), H. Sanders Gwin (Reg. No. 33,242), Michael A. Hakamaki (Reg. No. 40,011), Karl G. Hanson (Reg. No. 32,900), Néstor F. Ho (Reg. No. 39,460), Jeffrey J. Hohenshell (Reg. No. 34,109), Robert W. Hoke (Reg. No. 29,226), John H. Hornickel (Reg. No. 29,393), MarySusan Howard (Reg. No. 38,729), Stephen C. Jensen (Reg. No. 35,207), Robert H. Jordan (Reg. No. 31,973), Harold C. Knecht III (Reg. No. 35,576), Kent S. Kokko (Reg. No. 33,931), Charles D. Levine (Reg. No. 32,477), Douglas B. Little (Reg. No. 28,439), Eloise J. Maki (Reg. No. 33,418), Lisa M. McGeehan (Reg. No. 41,185), Matthew B. McNutt (Reg. No. 39,766), Michelle M. Michel (Reg. No. 33,968), William D. Miller (Reg. No. 37,988), Peter L. Olson (Reg. No. 35,308), Daniel R. Pastirik (Reg. No. 33,025), David B. Patchett (Reg. No. 39,326), Carolyn V. Peters (Reg. No. 33,271), Scott R. Pribnow (Reg. No. 43,869), Terryl K. Qualey (Reg. No. 25,148), Ted K. Ringsred (Reg. No. 35,658), James A. Rogers (Reg. No. 37,228), Daniel C. Schulte (Reg. No. 40,160), Steven E. Skolnick (Reg. No. 33,789), Robert W. Sprague (Reg. No. 30,497), Brian E. Szymanski (Reg. No. 39,523), James J. Trussell (Reg. No. 37,251), F. Andrew Ubel (Reg. No. 36,704), and Lucy C. Weiss (Reg. No. 32,834), my attorneys and/or agents with full powers (including the powers of appointment, substitution, and revocation) to prosecute this application and any division, continuation, continuation-in-part, reexamination, or reissue thereof, and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith; the mailing address and the telephone number of the above-mentioned attorneys and/or agents are

Attention: Jeffrey J. Hohenshell
Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
P.O. Box 33427
St. Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427
Telephone No. (651) 733-1555

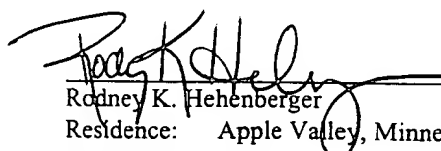
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The undersigned petitioner declares further that all statements made herein of his own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Wherefore, I pray for grant of Letters Patent for the invention or discovery described and claimed in the attached specification and we hereby subscribe our names to the foregoing specification and claims, declaration, power of attorney, and this petition, on the day set forth below.


Rodney K. Hehenberger

August 5, 1999
Date

Residence: Apple Valley, Minnesota, U.S.A.
Citizenship: U.S.A.
Post Office: P.O. Box 33427
Address: St. Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427



Phillip A. Bolea 8/5/99
Date
Residence: White Bear Lake, Minnesota, U.S.A.
Citizenship: U.S.A.
Post Office P.O. Box 33427
Address: St. Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427

Bernard A. Gonzalez 5-AUG-99
Date
Residence: St. Paul, Minnesota, U.S.A.
Citizenship: U.S.A.
Post Office P.O. Box 33427
Address: St. Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427

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§1.56 Duty to disclose information material to patentability.

(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

- (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
- (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.

(b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and

- (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim; or
- (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:
 - (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or
 - (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

(c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

- (1) Each inventor named in the application;
- (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
- (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.

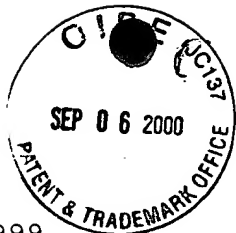
(d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office
ASSISTANT SECRETARY AND COMMISSIONER
OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

OCTOBER 14, 1999

PTAS

3M INNOVATIVE PROPERTIES COMPANY
JEFFREY J. HOHENSHELL
OFFICE OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY COUNSEL
P.O. BOX 33427
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55133-3427



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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
NOTICE OF RECORDATION OF ASSIGNMENT DOCUMENT

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

THE ENCLOSED DOCUMENT HAS BEEN RECORDED BY THE ASSIGNMENT DIVISION OF THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE. A COMPLETE MICROFILM COPY IS AVAILABLE AT THE ASSIGNMENT SEARCH ROOM ON THE REEL AND FRAME NUMBER REFERENCED BELOW.

PLEASE REVIEW ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED ON THIS NOTICE. THE INFORMATION CONTAINED ON THIS RECORDATION NOTICE REFLECTS THE DATA PRESENT IN THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK ASSIGNMENT SYSTEM. IF YOU SHOULD FIND ANY ERRORS OR HAVE QUESTIONS CONCERNING THIS NOTICE, YOU MAY CONTACT THE EMPLOYEE WHOSE NAME APPEARS ON THIS NOTICE AT 703-308-9723. PLEASE SEND REQUEST FOR CORRECTION TO: U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE, ASSIGNMENT DIVISION, BOX ASSIGNMENTS, CG-4, 1213 JEFFERSON DAVIS HWY, SUITE 320, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231.

RECORDATION DATE: 08/05/1999

REEL/FRAME: 010161/0431
NUMBER OF PAGES: 3

BRIEF: ASSIGNMENT OF ASSIGNOR'S INTEREST (SEE DOCUMENT FOR DETAILS).

ASSIGNOR:
HEHENBERGER, RODNEY K.

DOC DATE: 08/05/1999

ASSIGNOR:
BOLEA, PHILLIP A.

DOC DATE: 08/05/1999

ASSIGNOR:
GONZALEZ, BERNARD A.

DOC DATE: 08/05/1999

ASSIGNEE:
3M INNOVATIVE PROPERTIES COMPANY
P.O. BOX 33427
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55133-3427

SERIAL NUMBER: 09369410
PATENT NUMBER:

FILING DATE: 08/03/1999
ISSUE DATE:

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NOV 08 1999

JJH
J. J. HOHENSHELL

PATENT ASSIGNMENT RECORDATION COVER SHEET

T : The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks:

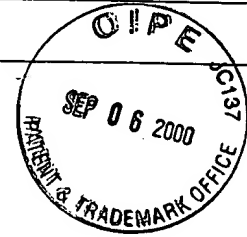
Please record the attached original document or copy thereof.

Submission Type:

- ☒ New
- ☐ Resubmission (Non-Recordation):
Document ID# _____
- ☐ Correction of PTO Error: Reel # _____ Frame # _____
- ☐ Corrective Document: Reel # _____ Frame # _____

Conveyance Type:

- ☒ Assignment
- ☐ Other: _____



Name of conveying party(ies)

Execution Date
(Month/Day/Year)

Hehenberger, Rodney K. 08/05/99

Bolea, Phillip A. 08/05/99

Gonzalez, Bernard A. 08/05/99

Name and address of receiving party(ies):

3M Innovative Properties Company
P.O. Box 33427
St. Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427

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Additional names of conveying party(ies) attached?

- ☐ Yes ☒ No

Application number or patent number:

- ☒ This document is being filed with a new patent application on August 5, 1999
- ☐ This document is to be recorded against the following patent application or patent: _____

Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT):

Enter PCT application number only if a U.S. Application Number has not been assigned: _____

Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:

Name: Jeffrey J. Hohenshell, Phone Number: (651) 733-1555
Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
P.O. Box 33427
St. Paul, Minnesota 55133-3427

Number of Properties:

Enter the total number of properties involved

1

Fee Amount:

Fee Amount for Properties Listed (37 CFR 3.41)

X \$40.00

Method of Payment:

☒ Charge to Deposit Account No. 13-3723

= \$40.00

Authorization to charge additional fees: ☒ Yes ☐ No

DO NOT USE THIS SPACE

Statement and signature

To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and any attached copy is a true copy of the original document. Charges to deposit account are authorized, as indicated herein.

Jeffrey J. Hohenshell, Reg. No. 34,109

Signature

8-5-99

Date

Printed Name of Attorney

Pages:

Total number of pages of the attached conveyance document including any attachments

3

Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to:

Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, Box Assignments, Washington, D.C. 20231

ASSIGNMENT

Whereas we, the below named inventors, with residences and citizenships as indicated below; have made an invention in


CHEMICAL INDICATOR READER

and have contemporaneously executed an application for Letters Patent of the United States of America based thereon;

Now, therefore, for good and valuable consideration, receipt of which is acknowledged, we have individually and jointly agreed to assign and transfer and do hereby assign and transfer unto the 3M INNOVATIVE PROPERTIES COMPANY, a wholly owned subsidiary of MINNESOTA MINING AND MANUFACTURING COMPANY, and a corporation of Delaware, having its principal office at Saint Paul, Minnesota, its successors and assigns, the entire right, title, and interest in and to the said invention and application, and in and to any division or continuation (in whole or in part) of said application, and in and to any and all improvements in the said invention made by us or any of us or made jointly with others (provided any such improvement is made during, or within one year after the termination of, the employment by Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company and any of its existing or future subsidiaries of whichever of us, solely or jointly with one or more others, has made the same), and in and to any and all Letters Patent, reexaminations, reissues, or extensions thereof, of the United States of America and countries foreign thereto (including the right to apply for Letters Patent, Utility Models, or Inventors' Certificates in foreign countries in its own name and to claim any priority rights for such foreign applications to which such applications are entitled under international conventions, treaties, or otherwise), which have been or may be granted thereon or on any divisional, continuation (in whole or in part), renewal, reexamination, reissue, or other or further application based in whole or in part upon the said invention or improvements thereon, to be held and enjoyed as fully and exclusively as they would have been by us or any of us had this assignment and transfer not been made,

We do further agree for ourselves and for our heirs, executors, and administrators, to execute and deliver without further consideration any further applications, assignments, and documents, and to perform such other acts as we lawfully may, that may be deemed necessary by the said Company, its successors, assigns, and nominees, fully to secure its right, title, and interest as aforesaid and to obtain or maintain Letters Patent, Utility Models, or Inventors' Certificates in any and all countries;

And we do hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents to issue any and all Letters Patent which may be granted upon any of the said applications, to the said 3M Innovative Properties Company, as the assignee of the entire right, title, and interest therein.



Rodney K. Hehenberger
Residence: Apple Valley, Minnesota, U.S.A.
Citizenship: U.S.A.

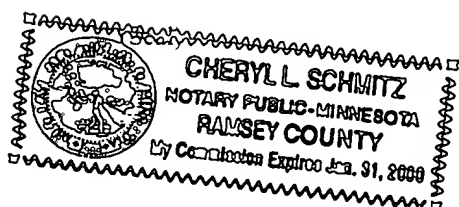
August 5, 1999

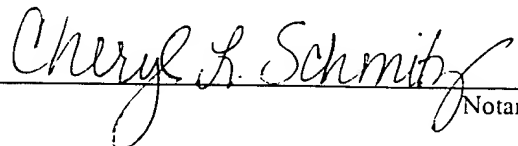
STATE OF MINNESOTA)

) ss.

COUNTY OF RAMSEY)

On this 5th day of August 1999, before me personally appeared the above-named Rodney K. Hehenberger, personally known by me, and known by me to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and who acknowledged that said person executed the same as said person's free act and deed, on the day and year aforesaid.





Notary Public



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Phillip A. Bolea
Phillip A. Bolea

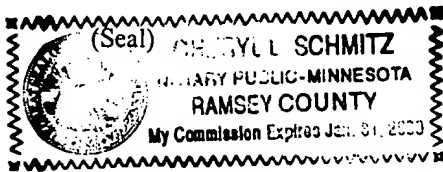
Residence: White Bear Lake, Minnesota, U.S.A.

Citizenship: U.S.A.



STATE OF MINNESOTA)
) ss.
 COUNTY OF RAMSEY)

On this 5th day of August 1999, before me personally appeared the above-named Phillip A. Bolea, personally known by me, and known by me to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and who acknowledged that said person executed the same as said person's free act and deed, on the day and year aforesaid.

Cheryl L. Schmitz

Notary Public

Bernard A. Gonzalez

5-Aug-99

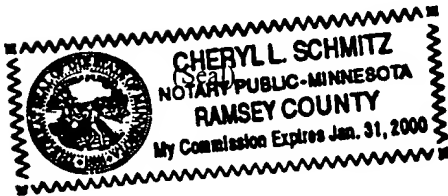
Bernard A. Gonzalez

Residence: St. Paul, Minnesota, U.S.A.

Citizenship: U.S.A.

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
) ss.
 COUNTY OF RAMSEY)

On this 5th day of August 1999, before me personally appeared the above-named Bernard A. Gonzalez, personally known by me, and known by me to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and who acknowledged that said person executed the same as said person's free act and deed, on the day and year aforesaid.

Cheryl L. Schmitz

Notary Public



DOCKET NO.: 54982USA1A.002

Application Of: Rodney K. Hehenberger; Phillip A. Bolea and
Bernard A. Gonzalez

Title: CHEMICAL INDICATOR READER

ENCLOSURES: Patent Application (Spec. - 55 pgs.; Claims -
18; Abstract - 1 pgs./TOTAL PAGES: 59); 25 sheets
formal drawings; Declaration, Power of Attorney, and Petition;
Assignment and Assignment Recordation Form Cover Sheet
Deposit Acct Amount: \$ 160.00 (Filing Fee) & \$40.00
(Recordal Fee)

Attorney (initials): JJH/clh

Express Mail No.: EM164710442US

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